Serial No.: 10/655,350

Response Dated August 29, 2006

Reply to Office action of June 29, 2006

136086-1

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being Facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below:

Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Mark Schaepkens

: Group Art Unit: 1762

Serial No.: 10/655,350

: Examiner: Fuller, Eric B

Filed: September 5, 2003

: Confirmation No.: 7026

REPLACEABLE PLATE EXPANDED THERMAL PLASMA APPARATUS AND

METHOD

For

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action requiring restriction mailed June 29, 2006, the Applicant elects without traverse the Group I claims, claims 1-18, and 31-40 drawn to a method. As required, the Applicant elects herewith a single species (vide infra). Claims 1-41 are currently pending in this application and are subject to restriction. This response was due by July 29, 2006 and a one month extension of time is hereby requested. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required to Deposit Account No. 07-0868.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.